

RICHMOND THE PLANET

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RICHMOND, VIRGINIA, FRIDAY AUGUST 18, 1922

PRICE, FIVE CENTS

EXTRA! DEPOSITORS HAVE GREAT MEETING

The Resolutions Adopted at the City Auditorium

ABSOLUTE HARMONY PREVAILS--WANT THE BANK OPENED.

Will Ask For Immediate Relief---Judge Moncure Asked to Hear Petitioners.

A largely attended meeting of the depositors of the Mechanics Savings Bank was held last Thursday night at the City Auditorium. Rev. W. T. Johnson, D. D., pastor of the First Baptist Church, presided. Music was furnished by the Municipal Band. Prayer was offered by Rev. J. O. Cook, Chairman Johnson then announced the purpose of the meeting. He called for a report of the committee previously appointed, of which Attorney J. Thomas Hewin was Chairman. He made the following report:

We, your committee appointed at your meeting held Friday night July 21st, 1922, in the City Auditorium, beg leave to make the following report:

We find that while we expected otherwise the receivers who were appointed by the judge of the Chancery Court, His Honor, William A. Moncure, have been unable to complete a report within a brief period of time as was expected, due to the constraining of the order of the court to mean that the pass-books must be turned in to the receivers at the bank and a report made thereon to the court, and that there are hundreds of depositors unwilling to part with the pass-books, which is the evidence of the liability of the bank to them, and that this would mean months of delay.

We are of the opinion that the bank should be opened and the president of the Mechanics Savings Bank be permitted to comply with the requirement of the Banking Division of the Corporation Commission in the delivery of the required securities of (\$33,500.00) Eighty-three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars in the meantime after the bank is opened, the pass-books could be turned in from time to time and balanced. We learn that the probable liability on any pass-book can be secured by a bond to be given in such an amount as the honorable court may see fit to require.

As many of us are in need of money to pay our expenses and many organizations are held up on account of the inability to pay sick and death claims and many others have money to be deposited for safe-keeping and cannot utilize the facilities provided by the institution with which they have been doing business for so many years, it was deemed advisable to file a petition and a plea with the judge of the honorable court, asking that the officers and stockholders of the aforesaid Mechanics Savings Bank be permitted to open for business along the lines indicated.

We further pledge ourselves to use our best efforts to prevent anything even resembling a "run" on the aforesaid institution as we realize that such a step would tend to destroy one of the leading institutions in the country, which institution is a monument to the far-sightedness of the better class of white people who have shown us the way to practice economy and thrift in this life's battle. We ask that our course in this matter be approved by you, and that all depositors be urged to join in this petition for the relief prayed to the end that the unfortunate conditions now existing shall cease.

We further commend the steady devotion of the colored people to the Mechanics Savings Bank and the unanimous support and encouragement accorded it by all other financial institutions in this city and State. We again emphasize our appreciation of the hearty expression of good-will and support accorded to us by practically all of the white people of this community and assure all parties that it has done more to cement the friendship previously existing between the races than any other thing could have done.

Respectfully submitted,
J. W. THOMPSON,
J. O. COOK,
J. H. BINFORD,
A. W. HOLMES.

MAGGIE L. WALKER,
J. THOMAS HEWIN, Chairman.

The chairman then read the following petition, which was filed in the Chancery Court, His Honor, William A. Moncure, presiding. It is as follows:

THE PETITION

VIRGINIA:
In the Chancery Court of the City of Richmond.

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION, Plaintiff,
vs.
MECHANICS SAVINGS BANK, Defendant.

To the Honorable William A. Moncure, Judge of the Chancery Court of the City of Richmond:

Your petitioners, J. W. Thompson, William A. Moncure, J. H. Binford, Maggie L. Walker, J. Thomas Hewin and J. O. Cook, Committee, acting on behalf of the depositors of the Mechanics Savings Bank of the City of Richmond, appointed at a Mass Meeting of said depositors at the City Auditorium in the City of Richmond, July 21st, 1922, as will be seen by circular, herewith filed, marked "Exhibit A," and prayed to be read as a part of this petition, and John B. Price, Janie W. Blam, George W. Brown, R. S. Nelson, Little Dove Club, C. P. Hayes, A. D. Price, K. S. Thomas, on behalf of themselves and such others who may desire to join them in this petition.

All of whom are depositors in the said Mechanics Savings Bank of the City of Richmond, respectfully represent that they are large depositors and creditors of the said Mechanics Savings Bank and that they have been depositors in the said Bank for a number of years and that others, on whose behalf the Committee asked to be allowed to intercede, are also large depositors. Some of them have carried large accounts in the said Bank from its organization to the date of its closing; that some of them have all of their money on deposit in said Bank; that, by reason of the closing of the same, they are deprived of the use of their money; that they have suffered great inconvenience and have been unable to carry out contracts made by them upon the strength of the money they had on deposit in the Bank at the time of its closing; that they have suffered irreparable injury in divers ways; that they have been unable to meet their obligations that have fallen due; that many of their obligations have been protested and they have been made to appear as defaulters, because of their inability to have the use of their money which is in said Bank.

Many of them have notes falling due upon the purchase of their homes and they are being subjected to threats and foreclosure because of their inability to have the use of their money on deposit in the said Mechanics Savings Bank; that a large number of secret organizations represented by your petitioners, are put to great inconvenience on account of their inability to check on the funds in the said Mechanics Savings Bank for the funeral expense and other indebtedness of their members; that they have been put to inconvenience by reason of their inability to draw on the said Bank for sick dues, due the members of the said organizations for weekly sick dues; that, the members of the various organizations and beneficial corporations are handicapped, because of their inability to draw on the Bank for the necessary funds to meet their obligations.

That your petitioners further represent that they saw an item in the local columns of one of the daily papers in the City of Richmond that the receivers desired the depositors to turn in their books to said receivers but the depositors did not understand why they should be required to give up the only evidence of the indebtedness of the Bank to them and that they now and always have entertained the utmost confidence in the President and Directors of the said Mechanics Savings Bank and that they do not question their honesty and integrity, for this reason on a large majority of the depositors have refused and doth refuse to turn over their books to the receivers. While it is true the receivers are strangers to them but, through the Court, they have the utmost confidence and respect for the receivers because, they are informed, the said receivers are officers of the Court and that their books could not be lost or misplaced by them yet they feel that they would prefer keeping the evidence of the indebtedness of the Bank to them in their own possession, especially since they have no reason to believe or suspect that there is anything wrong with their accounts, with the said Bank.

Your petitioners further represent that the depositors of the said Bank are anxious that the Bank and its affairs be returned to its officers, that the same may be opened at the earliest practicable moment to relieve the condition hereinbefore referred to; that a large number of the depositors are with-holding their books from the receivers for the reason that, they verily believe, should the more than three thousand depositors give their books to the receivers to be audited by them, the Bank will be closed indefinitely; that they believe it will take several months for the receivers to audit these three thousand and more of pass-books.

In order that the receivers may expedite their work and make their partial or full report to the Court, to the end that the Bank may be re-opened, they have declined and do decline to deliver their books to said receivers; that they have not been informed of any law compelling them to give up their books, which is the only receipt they have against the said Bank; that they have no means of knowing how long it would take to audit and state the three thousand and more accounts between the said Bank and the said depositors; that some of the said depositors were depositors in the Savings Bank of the Grand Fountain United Order of True Reformers and that they had been required to deliver their books and the receivers or those in charge of the matter were unable to close these accounts and make a final report to the Court for nearly ten years, during which time a large number of the depositors departed this life, and that this is the further reason why the depositors of the Mechanics Savings Bank are unwilling to turn in their books unless they are forced to do so by law; that it is not their intention to complain of those who had charge of the Savings Bank of the Grand Fountain United Order of True Reformers but simply refer to the matter to show some of the reasons why the said depositors in the Mechanics Savings Bank have refused to deliver their books to the receivers of the said Mechanics Savings Bank.

That your petitioners are informed that the President of the Mechanics Savings Bank, after agreeing to give securities for \$33,000.00, not refused to pay interest upon said securities at the rate of Six (6) Percent, the Bank would not have been closed and that his refusal to sign the obligation carrying the interest at the rate of Six (6) Percent, aforesaid, was the prime cause of the closing of the said Bank.

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THEY WANT REV. DR. R. V. PEYTON

OFFER AN INCREASE OF ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS IN SALARY.

At the regular meeting of the Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Church, Monday night, August 7, 1922, a motion was made to increase the salary of the pastor one hundred dollars. After some discussion, the motion was adopted by a vote of 136 to 109. Rev. Dr. R. V. Peyton's salary is at present \$150.00. He is allowed \$25.00 extra. This will mean that the Church is willing to pay him \$275.00 per month, if he will return to his flock.

When here, he could not be induced to stay just what he would do. He seems to be well satisfied with his present charge at Montclair, New Jersey, although at the time he was here, he had not been installed into the pastorate of the St. Paul Baptist Church.

It is stated that no assurances have been given by him as to just what he will do and the motion to increase his salary was taken with an idea of approaching him with something tangible. Should he still persist in his refusal, an effort will be made to call another pastor.

CORNELIA F. DREW GONE.

A telegram was received by John Mitchell, Jr., from Col. Archer Drew of Portsmouth, Va., Friday, August 11th, announcing the death of his wife and stating that the funeral would take place Sunday following at 2 P. M. Accordingly, he left via N. and W. R. R., Sunday morning. Arriving there, he was informed that Mrs. Cornelia H. Drew was playing with the children. Thursday night up until 10:30 o'clock. She suddenly exclaimed that her breath was leaving her. She gasped and Col. Drew sent for Dr. Francis. When he came, he found her unconscious. He felt her pulse and found that she was dead. She had vomited and she stated that she had eaten some candy with the children. It was believed that her death was due to acute indigestion.

The funeral took place from the North St. A. M. E. Church, Sunday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. Rev. Dr. L. L. Berry officiating. Funeral Director John H. Corpe officiated. The casket was one of the finest ever seen in the locality. Interment was in Mt. Olive Cemetery. She left a husband, one son, three daughters, a husband, a mother and eight grand-children to mourn their loss. She had been a member of North St. A. M. E. Church for many years. She was a member of Ruth Court No. 191, Order of Calantha Naomi Lodge, Daughters of the Prairie, No. 1, Order of Buffaloes, M'one-bha, Auxiliary Order of Redneers, Old Folks' Home Forum and was Day Nursery Missionary.

GUARDS PROTECT ACCUSED MEN

Carthage, N. C., Aug. 11.—A battalion of national guardsmen, with machine guns, will be on guard duty at Moore County courthouse and jail here next week during the trial of three Negroes charged with criminally assaulting a woman and shooting her husband at their one-night camp near Southern Pines last week as they were traveling from Florida northward.

William H. Thorogood A Candidate.

The well-known Mr. William H. Thorogood of Norfolk is a candidate as a delegate to the General Conference of the A. M. E. Church, which meets next year in Louisville, Va., and the indications are that he will be overwhelmingly nominated by the electoral college for this State, when meets September 5, 1922 at Suffolk. He is being supported by the popular Rev. Dr. J. A. Young, pastor of the St. John A. M. E. Church, of which church Mr. Thorogood has been an officer for many years. The well-known Mr. W. H. C. Brown is his "running mate."

A Thoroughly Reliable Concern.

We acknowledge receipt of the congratulations of the Ozonized Ox Marrow Co., on our receipt acknowledgment. This firm is one of the most reliable in the country and its products have proven their efficiency for more than ten years. Read their advertisements and correspond with them.

REV. DR. MOSBY SPEAKS.

Richmond, Va., July 28, 1922. Mr. John Mitchell, Jr.
My dear Sir,—As I am thinking of you and your success along several lines and the crisis through which you are now passing, I pause to express to you a word of sympathy.

This expression however comes from a very humble citizen, but nevertheless sincere. I regret so much the condition of affairs as they now exist and as I have done, and am still doing, I stand ready to render you any assistance which is mine to give, in word or deed, tangible or otherwise.

I am praying with others that this suspense will soon be broken, and the Mechanics Savings Bank return to her former glory.

Believe me to be,
Humbly yours,
T. J. J. MOSBY.

FALLS 40 FEET; NOT HURT.

(Preston News Service.)
BELIEVE IT OR NOT
Chattanooga, Tenn., Aug. 18.—Little Theon White, aged two years, is said to have fallen from the third floor of a building in Chestnut street to the ground, forty feet below, last Sunday afternoon and according to physicians who attended him after the fall, he was not injured in any way except that he was "shaken-up," which he naturally would be after falling forty feet.

According to the parents of the lad, he was playing near a window on the third floor of his home when he stumbled and fell against the blinds. They gave way and out the window he tumbled, landing on his shoulder and head on the ground forty feet below. When picked up by his relatives, he was unconscious, but regained consciousness and appeared to be normal in a few hours.

J. W. HALL IS EXONERATED ON ROBBERY CHARGE.

(Preston News Service.)
Pittsburgh, Pa., Aug. 18.—James W. Hall, aged 27 years who was arrested in Undercliff, a small village near here, as a suspicious person, last Wednesday, was discharged in Penn Avenue Police Court on Friday. It was alleged that Hall had stolen \$500 worth of jewelry from the home of Mrs. Josephine Hammond, but no evidence was introduced to connect him with this robbery.

THE BEE CONTEST.

The judges for the settling of the "Bee" Contest are Dr. Albert A. Tennant, Cashier, Emanuel C. Burke and Mr. William A. Jordan. As soon as they complete the canvass of the returns, the prizes will be announced and if possible to secure the photographs of the winners, they will appear in The Planet.

SPECIAL SERVICE AT EBENEZER

A special service will be held at the Ebenezer Baptist Church, on the third Sunday, August 20, 1922, at 8:30 P. M. The service is under the auspices of Over-Seas and Layman's Missionary Societies, benefit of missions. The following program will be rendered:

Music, Over-Seas Chorus; devotionals, Rev. William H. Stokes, Ph. D., Pastor; music, Gloria from Mozart's "Requiem Mass," by Over-Seas Chorus; music, Glorious is Thy Name Almighty God, (by Haydn) by the Over-Seas Chorus; offertory, Messrs. C. M. Kemp and W. H. Walton; music, Over-Seas Chorus; duet, Mrs. Ida Horsley and Miss J. B. Clanton; Special Sermon, Rev. J. S. Johnson; music, Over-Seas Chorus; benediction, Rev. William H. Stokes, Ph. D., Pastor. Mr. B. L. Jordan, master of ceremonies.

Mrs. Bettie C. Cousins, president Over-Seas Missionary Society; Mr. C. M. Kemp, president Layman's Missionary Movement; Mrs. Ida Horsley, chairman Program Committee, Over-Seas Society; Mr. George W. Howell director of Over-Seas Chorus.

Rev. William H. Stokes, Ph. D., pastor; Mr. Wallace Epps, church clerk.

VISITORS TO OUR OFFICE.

Mrs. N. E. Littlejohn, Spartanburg S. C.; Mrs. M. B. Robinson, Charleston, S. C.; Mrs. Leah Thompson, Anderson, S. C.; Mrs. Marion B. Wilkinson and Mrs. B. B. Rowe, Orangeburg, S. C.; Mrs. Millie B. Paxton, Roanoke, Va.; G. H. Cain, Emporia, Va.; Mrs. Josephine Clark, Petersburg, Va.; Mrs. W. C. Gordon and Miss Edwina Nickerson, St. Louis Mo.; N. D. Brascher, Chicago, Ill.; Mrs. Alice Handy, New York, N. Y.; Mrs. S. P. Wagoner, Mrs. S. P. Cotton and Mrs. Julia A. Gibson, Peoria Ill.; Mrs. Margaret Wyche, Bloomington, Ill.; H. A. Hunt, Principal Fort Valley High and Industrial School, Fort Valley, Georgia; John S. Allen, Secretary-Treasurer, The Great South ern Fire Insurance Company, Atlanta, Ga.

Mrs. P. M. B. Hodge, of Danville, Va. was in attendance at the State and National Federation of Colored Women's Clubs. She returned home Thursday after a few days spent visiting old acquaintances and friends, who were sorry to part with her.

(Preston News Service.)

Pittsburgh, Pa., Aug. 18.—Miss Jeanie M. Proctor, president of the Strait Tex Chemical Company is spending several days visiting relatives and friends in New York City and Boston. Miss Proctor will return home about September 1st after which she will devote her time to developing a new process for dyeing women's hair.

KNIGHTS CALL KU KLUX KLAN'S BLUFF

(Preston News Service.)
Chattanooga, Tenn., Aug. 17.—The Ku Klux Klan, which has been responsible for the secret circulation of a spurious document purporting to be the genuine official oath of the Knights of Columbus got a set-back here last Tuesday when the Reverend Father I. T. Sullivan publicly announced in the local daily papers that "Five Thousand Dollars was on deposit in the First National Bank of Chattanooga, Tenn., and would be donated to any person who would show that the alleged bloody oath of the Knights of Columbus is not a cruel, cowardly and fake oath."

It is said that klansmen are using the fake oath to plant the seeds of religious hatred in the minds of the more illiterate of the people in this vicinity and have even been able in some instances to really convince some of the better informed citizens that the oath is genuine.

It is claimed that Catholics are not as easily terrorized as Negroes and the nefarious Ku Klux organization is trying to engender religious hatred against the Catholics through the secret circulation of this fake oath.

Mr. Helps Visits South.

Mr. John W. Helps, of Brooklyn, N. Y. arrived in the city last Saturday afternoon, after having spent the week in Washington, D. C. attending the Masonic Convention. It was the first visit Mr. Helps had ever made south of the Mason and Dixie line. He is a native of the West Indies and a very fluent and interesting conversationalist. He was much pleased with his surroundings and the many friends he met and regretted that he was called home Tuesday. While here he was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. John R. Cogbill and Mr. John H. Jones, of 114 E. 18th Street, Southside.

MRS. GEORGIA HANDY HERE.

Mrs. Georgia Handy, of Johnstown, Pa., Editor of The Bulletin, State Organ of Pennsylvania Federation of Negro Women's Clubs, was the guest of Mrs. Lena Munford of Leigh street, while attending the National Federation.

Mrs. Handy is also on Publicity Committee of the same.

BOWSER-WILKINS.

Rev. and Mrs. P. N. Wilkins announced the marriage of their daughter, Deborah, to Mr. Charles Bowser, Sunday, August 13, 1922 in the city of Baltimore, Maryland. At home, Washington, D. C.

SECOND BAPTIST--SOUTHSIDE.

Rev. E. B. Smith, Pastor will preach a special sermon Sunday, August 20, 11:30 A. M. from the following subject, "And they buried his body and went and told Jesus." Communion 3:30 P. M. and the right hand of fellowship to 20 new members also.